

REMARKS

With the instant Preliminary Amendment, Claims 11-13 have been amended and Claims 6-8 and 14-18 have been cancelled. After entry, Claims 1-5 and 9-13 are pending and under consideration.

The claims have been amended to conform to U.S. practice without prejudice to Applicants' ability to pursue any amended or cancelled subject matter in the instant application or in one or more continuation, division or continuation-in-part applications. In particular, Claims 11-13 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies and Claims 6-8 and 14-18 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Applicants submit that the amendments to the claims are not new matter because they correct claim dependencies or cancel subject matter without prejudice. Since the amendments are not new matter, Applicants respectfully request their entry to the specification.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that Claims 1-5 and 9-13 satisfy all of the criteria for patentability and are in condition for allowance. An early indication of the same and passage of Claims 1-5 and 9-13 to issuance is therefore kindly solicited.

No fees in addition to the fee under 35 U.S.C. § 371 are believed due in connection with this response. However, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 (a)(3), the Commissioner is authorized to charge all required fees, fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 and all required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment, to Jones Day, U.S. Deposit Account No. 503013 (Order No. 129955-600001).

Respectfully submitted,

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